



Attorney Docket No. 0756-2224

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hongyong ZHANG et al.

Serial No. 09/712,286

Filed: November 15, 2000

For: OPTICAL SENSOR

) Group Art Unit: 2811

) Examiner: G. Munson

) CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

) I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 8, 2004.

) Adam M Stamps

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Official Action mailed December 8, 2003, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicants note with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on November 15, 2000 and corrected on December 13, 2000.

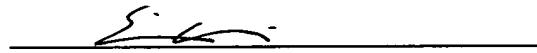
Claims 1-4, 6-9 and 56-71 are pending in the present application, of which claims 1, 6, 56, 60, 64 and 68 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 56, 57, 59-61, 63-65, 67-69, and 71 under the doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,194,740 to Zhang et al.

In response to this rejection, a *Terminal Disclaimer* is submitted herewith. Upon filing of this *Terminal Disclaimer*, the claims of the present invention are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejections are requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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